

## N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK\_OFFICE

Application of

Akihiro IINO et al.

Serial No. 09/398,639 : Group Art Unit: 2834

Filed: September 17, 1999 : Examiner: Mark O. Budd

For: PIEZOELECTRIC ACTUATOR
AND ELECTRONIC APPARATUS

WITH PIEZOELECTRIC

ACTUATOR : Docket No. S004-3771

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS Washington, D.C. 20231

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT FORMING PART OF RULE 114 REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

SIR:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.114, applicants preliminarily amend their application as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend claim 34 as follows:

34. (Thrice Amended) A piezoelectric actuator comprising: a plurality of piezoelectric elements stacked in a first direction and in a second direction generally